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Marginal Column BY EDWARD CRANKHAW

FROM the Soviet point of view, one of the most important aspects of the recent troubles in Eastern Germany has been the strengthening of the hand of the Soviet Army in the Soviet Union. It is not many years since the soldiers in Russia have been very well aware that, whatever the politicians might say, the real power behind the new Soviet Russia has been the Soviet Army. They have said this in private, but it has been impossible for them to prove it in public, because the whole strength of the Soviet position has been based on the fiction that the Soviet Union is a democracy. If the Soviet Union were a democracy, the Soviet Army would be elected by the people, and the Soviet Union would be a democracy.

BUT the recent events in Eastern Germany have blown this fairy-tale sky high. In face of the disintegration of the German workers' state, the German Communists, together with their police force, found themselves impotent. But for the Soviet Army of Occupation there would have been no successful revolution against the local Communist power. The Soviet soldiers have thus been publicly proved to be what they have always privately claimed to be: the real power behind the so-called Communist bloc.

WHAT effect this demonstration will have on the internal government of the Soviet Union remains to be seen. For some time past it has been widely reported behind the Iron Curtain that the Soviet Army and the Communist Party have been fighting each other bitterly and hard. It is said that the soldiers made effective use of the election of Eisenhower as President of the United States. Their argument ran, it is said, that it was absurd to think of America as a country governed exclusively by bankers and crooked financiers when a General with an active and successful military career, behind him was elected head of the State, and when, moreover, one of his chief opponents was an even more active Communist. Mr. Arthur, if the U.S.A. was argued, set such store by the prestige of her Army, then the Soviet Union might do the same.

THE Soviet general could point to the fact that the only way the Kremlin had managed to control Poland was to place a Soviet soldier, Marshal Rokossovski, in effective control.

THEY could cite the case of Yugoslavia as a striking example of what happened when the Kremlin relied exclusively on the Communist Party. They could bring a resolute satellite to heel. And it is widely believed behind the Iron Curtain that all these arguments were of material assistance in bringing back the fighting generals, headed by Marshal Zhukov, into commanding positions in the State when Stalin died. But the Communist Party fought back. It had to fight back for fear of seeing the Soviet Union gradually moving over to some sort of military dictatorship. It had, in a word, to fight back for its life.

ONE example of the way in which it fought back is seen in the amalgamation of the Ministry of the Navy with the Ministry of War under Marshal Bulganin, the politician par excellence in spite of his military title, and the consequent public favouring of sailors at the expense of soldiers. This was generally seen as a recognition of the enhanced role of the Soviet Navy, in view of the growing significance of submarines and the critical importance of the defence of the Baltic, the Black Sea, and the White Sea. But to anyone familiar with the strained relations between the Army and the Navy in Soviet Russia, the public exaltation of the Admirals told another story.

THE Ministry of Defence, while giving way to some of the Army's claims by recalling distinguished generals from the wilderness, has also snubbed the generals by giving a lion's share of recent decorations and promotions to the Navy. It has tried to play off soldiers and sailors against each other. But now, with the suppression of the Berlin revolt, the politicians are in a difficult position. It is clear that the Soviet Army will see Berlin as a lever to obtain a still more commanding position at home.

London July 6.

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Bill in Knesset Would Raise Rents by 60p.c.

By BRAYA SHAPIRO, POST Knesset Correspondent

Rents would rise by an average of 60%, under the terms of the Tenants' Protection Bill, which was introduced in the Knesset yesterday by the Minister of Justice, Mr. P. Rosen.

The increase will not be uniform, but will depend on the number of rooms and the date of the last increase.

In new houses the construction of which began after January 1, 1953, rent will not be controlled for five years.

For business premises the maximum rent this year may not exceed 10% of the rent paid in April 1952.

As a result of bargaining, the real rent will probably be established somewhere between the minimum and the maximum allowed, Mr. Rosen said.

Flats rented before April 2, 1950, will be liable to the following increases:

one room 70%
two rooms 100%
three rooms 150%

In those rented between April 2, 1940 and April 1, 1945, the increase will be 52, 75 and 97 per cent respectively.

Flats apartments whose rent was fixed after April 1, 1945, the increase will be 42, 62 and 82 per cent respectively. The rent in a larger flat will be fixed by a special rent tribunal.

Such tribunals, presided over by a competent judge and composed of a representative of the landlords and a representative of the tenants, will be given wide powers, including the right to order evictions. It is expected, Mr. Rosen stated, that such tribunals will dispel some of the tension which embittered landlord-tenant relations in the past two decades.

Key Money Not Mentioned
The Bill does not mention "key money." Unfortunately, Mr. Rosen continued, "legally key money has never been representative of the real rent, and probably is not going to be."

Landlords will be expected to provide normal maintenance services such as replacement of parts, and the supply of hot water at fixed periods. Tenants will be required to share the cost of such services. Because there was no such provision in the present law many houses have fallen into decay.

Seventy tenants are protected by the Bill since they may not be charged with more than double the amount that the tenant pays the landlord. Moreover, the sub-tenant will be protected against eviction, in the case of a tenant leaving the flat.

The Bill was attacked most vigorously by Mr. Ben-Zion, a member of the Knesset. He asked why should a single person living in a modern, one-room flat be liable to an increase of two-thirds of the rent of a couple with children, who need to have two or three rooms at least, are

Sprinkak Joins B.G. in Opposing Non-Zionists Joining Agency

Jerusalem POST Staff

Mr. Yosef Sprinkak, Speaker of the Knesset, yesterday joined Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion in opposing the entry of non-Zionist organizations.

Mr. Ben-Gurion spoke on Sunday evening against the broadening of the Jewish Agency.

He argued that the Zionist movement should be based on its most common denominator, that is, on the positive foundations of the Jewish people in Israel and on essential Hebrew education.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister believed that with the establishment of the State the framework of organization was no longer suitable for the extension of the Jewish Agency.

Speaking at yesterday's plenary session of the Agency Executive, Mr. Sprinkak took issue with Dr. Nahum Goldmann's proposal, and suggested instead that the Jewish Agency should be enlarged to include all Jews who wished to take part in building the State, Zionist and non-Zionist alike.

3-Point Programme

The session attended by delegates of the "wooded mission" (a group of Israeli Zionists who earlier this year visited Western Europe on behalf of the Jewish Agency and the American Zionist Council, heard Mr. Sprinkak outline a three-point programme for the future of the Zionist Movement:

- 1) Economic and political aid to ensure the stability and prosperity of the State;
- 2) Increased attention to Jewish education in the Diaspora; and
- 3) Efforts towards establishing Hebrew as the language of Jews everywhere.

On immigration, Mr. Sprinkak

Indo-China States Disagree on Paris Home Rule Offer

SAIGON, Monday (UP). — Visible disagreement between the three Associated States of Indo-China on their attitude towards France's independence offer came today when the Kingdom of Laos split with Cambodia by expressing appreciation of the new move.

The Royal Government of Laos is very satisfied with the French Government's declaration, indicating clearly the new position of France in its relations with the Associated States," said Prince Souvanna Phouma, Premier of Laos.

His statement contrasted sharply with the reception of the French note in neighbouring Cambodia, where Prime Minister Pen Nouth stated that it did not explicitly answer the country's demands for home rule. Sam Sary, King Norodom Sihanouk's personal representative, said that the offer would have been more "effective" some months ago.

Incidentally, Mr. Harari raised a constitutional question: Why must the Knesset Legal Committee ratify any changes in the increase of rent which the Minister of Justice might deem fit to introduce at yearly intervals? Either the changes are technical, and should be left to the discretion of the Minister, or they concern matters of principle, in which case the House, in its plenary session, should be informed.

Mr. I. Raphael (Hapoel Hamizrabi) welcomed the Bill because he had discovered in it the spirit of Jewish legislators, mainly Maimonides. However, he objected to the fact that the Bill extended protection to a common-law writ thus encouraging extra-marital relations, he argued.

Mr. David Jacobson (Mapai), was glad the Bill was passing, as it was the first step towards a new law of landlord-tenant relations in the past two decades.

IL 20m. Development Budget for June-July

Finance Minister Levi Eshkol is expected to table a IL20m. interim Development Budget for June and July. The Jerusalem Post learned in Jerusalem yesterday.

Revenue is foreseen from the counterpart fund of Reparations, IL5m.; Independence Bonds, IL5m.; counterpart funds of U.S. grant-in-Aid, IL4m.; Development Authority and transfers from the Ordinary Budget, IL12m.; advance on the income tax, IL1m.; and property tax, IL2m.

Expenditures for agriculture and investments in local authorities and for industry, IL34m.; investments in communications, IL17m.; settlements, IL34m.; counterpart funds of U.S. grant-in-Aid, IL11m.; welfare institutions, IL12m.; public works, IL12m.; development of Jerusalem and special projects, IL150,000; unemployment, IL2m.; and general reserve, IL12m.

A Hungarian news agency message received in London quoted "Szabad Nép" as saying in an editorial that the new programme is "not merely a step forward but an important turning point in the economic development of the entire political life of Hungary."

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Chief among the new proposals for raising new money are an increase of five francs per litre of gasoline, three francs per litre of diesel oil, and stiff increases in taxes on alcohol. Prices of revenue stamps also will be hiked and the fee for a stamp of importation of the population's material standards, and especially in that of the workmen.

A Foreign Office spokesman said today that Britain "urgently" considers the recent reshaping of the Hungarian Government, with special reference to the case of Mr. Zsigmond Balogh, a member of the Hungarian Government, with special reference to the case of Mr. Zsigmond Balogh, a member of the Hungarian Government, with special reference to the case of Mr. Zsigmond Balogh, a member of the Hungarian Government.

ICFTU Backs East German Revolt

STOCKHOLM, Monday. — The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions began the working sessions of its Third World Congress today and adopted a resolution backing the resistance of East German workers to their Government.

Mr. Walter Reuther, President of the American Federation of Industrial Organizations, said that the ICFTU would keep on working to create "a force of freedom, not necessarily by military means but with such weapons as social reforms and the making of a better world."

Two East German workers, Gunter Eckardt and Armin Bruch, gave the Congress first-hand accounts of the mid-June riots, and stated that large numbers of East German police were despatched to the demonstrations.

Appeal to Ike

In a joint cable to Mr. Eisenhower today Mr. Reuther and Mr. George Meany, President of the American Federation of Labour, urged the President to take immediate steps to help the East German workers in the struggle against "Soviet totalitarianism, and to submit a complaint to the U.N. against the Soviet Union's violation of human rights and freedom of association in Soviet-occupied Germany."

At a luncheon during a Congress recess today, Israeli-American and West German delegates met to hear Mr. Meany describe how President Roosevelt intervened with the Germans before the war to defend Jews and Socialists persecuted by Hitler.

APPROVE TAX CHANGES

The Committee of Economic Ministers held its weekly meeting yesterday. After approving amendments to the Income Tax Law, it continued its discussion of the 1953/54 Development Budget. The Council will meet tomorrow to approve the budget.

AFTER MIDNIGHT

A trade agreement was signed last night between a private British delegation and the Chinese National Import and Export Corporation, a Government-owned agency. The New China News Agency has reported from Peking.

U.S. Pledges Support To France in Indo-China

WASHINGTON, Monday (AP). — The U.S. pledged "wholehearted" support for France's new offer to negotiate a large measure of independence for the Associated States of Indo-China.

A State Department announcement said: "The declaration with the new Government of France has been received with the warmest approval of the U.S. Government."

The U.S. Government will support wholeheartedly the efforts of the French Government in this direction, in the confident hope that the way is open for a relationship based firmly on mutual interests and common consent."

All authoritative military opinion here is that it would certainly need to be rescued. His close supporters say confidently that we may have a couple of divisions during the initial stages. But the U.N. troops would have no time to get out. They would have to fight with the U.S. troops, and the American and world opinion might change in our favour."

Laniel's Cabinet Outlines New Taxes

PARIS, Monday (AP). — The new Government of Premier Joseph Laniel today outlined a series of new taxes, reductions of expenditures, and means for paying back advances from the Bank of France through which it hopes to get the nation's tottering economy back on a stable basis.

Roughly, the measures which the Laniel Cabinet is proposing are those which caused the downfall of the Rene Mayer Government in May 12. The four candidates for Premier who were rejected by the National Assembly during the 37-day crisis which followed Mr. Mayer's ouster said the measures would be needed.

Wants Confidence Vote

M. Laniel was reported to have decided to pose the question of confidence on his new cabinet. The debate in the National Assembly will take up most of this week, starting with committee hearings tomorrow.

Although he will face powerful opposition, many believe it was believed today that the Assembly would hesitate to throw out Mr. Laniel with the new cabinet. The new cabinet is expected to be formed by the end of the week.

Split Broadens in West, 'Pravda' Says; Warns of U.S. 'Provocations'

MOSCOW, Monday (Reuter). — "Pravda," the Communist Party organ, declared today that splits in the Anglo-American bloc were widening. It asserted that the "get tough" policy of U.S. Secretary of State Dulles had failed, but that the Americans were planning "new provocations" in East Europe on the lines of the East Berlin riots.

"Pravda" reiterated Russia's willingness to negotiate on outstanding issues, but gave a new warning against attempts to impose conditions or to exact concessions in advance. It declared in an editorial that the German conference, originally fixed for mid-June, was repeatedly postponed. Now, in view of Sir Winston Churchill's new policy, many people are expressing doubts whether it will ever be held at all.

"American newspapers report that the news of the failure of the German conference has caused a sigh of relief in Washington, though as is well known the initiative came from the American Government. Because the differences between the U.S., Britain and France have grown to such an extent that they cannot be eliminated by a routine meeting between the heads of Governments."

"Insolence or Stupidity?" The failure of the Berlin adventure had not brought to reason those who inspired it, the paper said. They hoped by new attacks in East Europe to put pressure on Russia, but how little they know the USSR!

"It is difficult to say if there is in these actions more insolence or stupidity. But one thing is clear: the men hatching such a policy are completely out of touch with the real correlation of forces on the international stage," the editorial declared. Such a policy was not evidence of strength but of the increasing isolation of aggressive circles.

"Any right-thinking human being understands that these calculations are neglected and doomed to failure," "Pravda" stated.

The editorial added that the USSR has demonstrated clearly its good will for the settlement of contentious international problems, and warned against the "elementary mistake" that in negotiations between Russia and the West "one side may dictate to the other, and especially to a country like the USSR, preliminary conditions for agreement."

U.S. Officials See Fear Behind Attack

WASHINGTON, Monday (Reuter). — State Department officials said here today that they believed "the continuing signs of unrest in Soviet satellite countries" were chiefly responsible for today's attack on the U.S. in "Pravda."

The officials stated that throughout the "Pravda" editorial, the theme was that the U.S. was organizing "sabotage and diversion" behind the "Iron Curtain" — charges identical with those of Soviet military authorities in Germany at the time of the East Berlin riots.

They said that the attacks could be expected to continue as long as the menace to the Soviet authorities remained. These authorities were deeply worried, and for obvious reasons, they were blaming the U.S. for the threat to their rule in the satellite countries.

With the Big Three Foreign Ministers to begin their "Little Berne" discussions of world problems here on Thursday, officials added that the new attack on the U.S. was to be expected in an attempt to divide the Big Four.

The main object of the attack is to influence opinion in Europe, especially in West Germany, where the question of a "Big Four" meeting is now a dominant issue in the campaign for the elections in late August.

U.S. INFORMATION CHIEF RESIGNS

WASHINGTON, Monday (UP). — President Eisenhower today accepted "with regret" the resignation of Dr. Robert L. Johnson, head of the Government's International Information Programme, due to overwork.

Britain, India Favour U.N. Action If Truce Talks Fail

Rhee Unshaken After 9th Robertson Visit

TOKYO, Monday (Reuter). — President Syngman Rhee after nine talks with the Americans said today to be still completely opposed to an armistice and ready to march his troops North—believing the Americans would be committed to rescue him.

All authoritative military opinion here is that it would certainly need to be rescued. His close supporters say confidently that we may have a couple of divisions during the initial stages. But the U.N. troops would have no time to get out. They would have to fight with the U.S. troops, and the American and world opinion might change in our favour."

Contradictory reports on progress or otherwise remain plentiful. Assistant Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett, who had completed a talk of nearly two hours with Rhee, said that the meetings so far had been cordial and he would be meeting Rhee again.

Denies Break Expected

General Maxwell Taylor, 8th Army Commander, "emphatically" does not expect a break between the U.N. Command and the South Koreans, his spokesman stated today.

Divergencies between authoritative sources here suggest to observers that neither side is releasing the full facts. From the South Koreans there are accumulations of evidence that the U.N. Command can expect more trouble if any fresh sign of agreement with the Communists appears at Fannum.

Mr. Nehru said that President Syngman Rhee's release of North Korean prisoners-of-war made the prospects of peace more remote, but he expressed the hope that in spite of what South Korea has done, peace will come to that devastated country."

Condemns Rhee

Mr. Nehru said the action of South Korea is particularly regrettable as in recent months the situation in the world has been showing an improvement and tensions have been easing because the powers have been talking less of war and more of peace.

Indian troops assigned to enforce a Korean armistice, Nehru added, "will not go if they have to fight."

Mr. Nehru said: "I do not know whether we will be called on to fulfill our responsibilities in Korea, but we are perfectly willing to go there providing the way is open for us to discharge them peacefully. It is not India's intention to send troops to fight in Korea."

Knowland Opposes Truce Without Rhee

WASHINGTON, Monday (AP). — Senator William F. Knowland today said that a truce in Korea without President Rhee's support would "play into the hands of the Communists" and would be impossible "from a practical point of view."

Mr. Knowland, acting Majority Leader of the Senate since Senator Robert Taft's illness, stated that the present "unfortunate situation" in Korea had been avoided if the U.S. had consulted fully with President Rhee.

He added that Rhee was not sufficiently consulted during the Truman administration "and I do not think he is being sufficiently consulted during the Eisenhower administration."

First Consultation

He said that the first real consultation with the South Korean President came with the dispatch of Mr. Walter Robertson, personal emissary of President Eisenhower, to ask whether the U.S. could now trust President Rhee. Mr. Knowland replied: "I do not think that he has done anything which would warrant our not trusting him."

Quarried whether the U.N. should use force to impose a truce if the Allies signed without Mr. Rhee's consent, Mr. Knowland answered: "Definitely not," adding, "we should make every effort to bring about a rapprochement between the Republic of South Korea, the U.S. and U.N. forces."

Butler Says Move Still 'Premature'

LONDON, Monday (UP). — Britain served notice today that it favours recalling the General Assembly if South Korean President Syngman Rhee rejects the terms of a Korean truce. Acting Prime Minister Richard Butler told questioners in the Commons that it would be "premature" to reconvene the Assembly while negotiations with Rhee are going on. But he added at once, "if no progress can be made by direct negotiations, that course (of reconvening the Assembly) will have to be taken."

A call for a special session of the General Assembly has been made by Indian Prime Minister Nehru. Britain, however, has not supported it on the grounds that the discussions between U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Walter Robertson and Rhee should first be given a chance to succeed. Nehru, nevertheless, has continued to press this country to accept his point of view.

Big 3 Meeting In London Proposed

LONDON, Monday. — Mr. R.A. Butler told Labour M.P. Arthur Leese today that his suggestion that the postponed Big Three conference be held in London owing to Sir Winston Churchill's illness was "sensible."

Mr. Butler said that the matter was being considered but could not be rushed because it involved "the movement of other persons besides His Majesty's Ministers."

PoW Release Dims Peace Hopes—Nehru

AGRA, Central India, Monday. — The All-India Congress Committee, India's ruling party's "parliament," today called for a meeting of the General Assembly to consider the "very critical situation" in the Korean Armistice.

With Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru presiding, the Committee unanimously passed a resolution expressing hope that such a meeting would be called at "a very early date."

Mr. Nehru said that President Syngman Rhee's release of North Korean prisoners-of-war made the prospects of peace more remote, but he expressed the hope that in spite of what South Korea has done, peace will come to that devastated country."

Mr. Nehru said the action of South Korea is particularly regrettable as in recent months the situation in the world has been showing an improvement and tensions have been easing because the powers have been talking less of war and more of peace.

Indian troops assigned to enforce a Korean armistice, Nehru added, "will not go if they have to fight."

Seek Guarantee

Other points made by Mr. Butler were:

- 1) The Allies, in talking to Rhee, are seeking to ensure that South Korea does not subsequently sabotage any armistice agreement.
- 2) The type of steps which may be taken if the talks fail, he did not elaborate.
- 3) Among the questions being discussed with Rhee are those of the implementation of the agreement and the release of prisoners and the planned post-armistice political conference.

Left-wing Labour Member Emrys Hughes asked: "How long will it be before we shall be going to the U.N. calling upon them to brand President Rhee as an aggressor and going upon the Chinese to restrain him?" Mr. Butler replied: "We have to await the result of the present consultations. We must also have in mind negotiations we are having with other member governments (of the U.N.)."

SOVIET CHESS TEAM OFF FOR U.S. TOURNEY

LONDON, Monday (UP). — A Soviet chess team left Moscow today to play an American team in New York, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported tonight.

The American Chess Federation invited the Russian team through the International Chess Federation. The Russians will play an American team captained by Mr. Samuel Rosenthal, the first round to be played July 15, TASS said.

Watchman Killed Near Rishon LeZion

The body of Shalom Ashel, a 25-year-old watchman, was found among cactus bare plants along the path leading to Nehu Rubin, near Rishon LeZion yesterday morning. He had been shot with an automatic weapon and seven bullets were found in his body. His rifle had been taken and his pockets were empty.

Police believe that he was attacked by infiltrators. The body was taken to Tel Hashomer Military Hospital.

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